

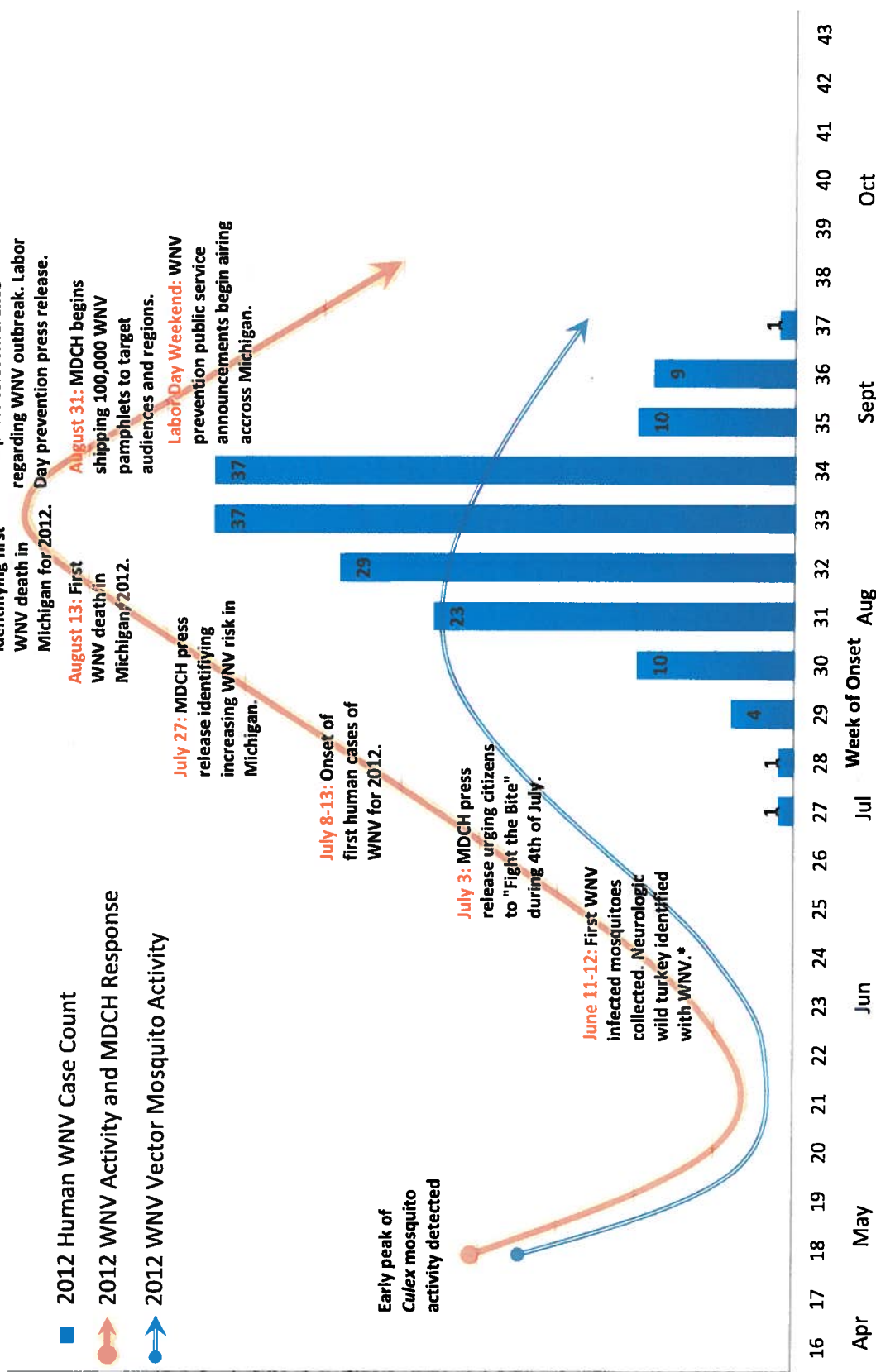
Submitted by
George Miller, Jr. &
Kathy Forzley

2012 Summary of MDCH West Nile Virus Media Activities

- Re-established WNV automated hotline for citizens, 888-757-5717
- Various official press releases regarding:
 - 1st detection of virus in mosquitoes and wildlife
 - 1st detection of virus in people
 - 1st WNV death in the state
 - Holiday messaging including 4th of July and Labor Day messages
- Reached out to media, holding a press-teleconference call including MDCH, MDARD, MDNR, and MSU – the call was attended by state news agencies including public radio, western Michigan newspapers and Detroit metro area newspapers.
- Developed new weekly arbovirus surveillance summary document highlighting most current human and ecologic data on WNV in the state. Updated every Friday on SOM West Nile website (www.michigan.gov/westnile).
- Posted CDC video PSA to Michigan WNV website so when the public first gets to the site the video is displayed.
- CDC WNV brochure (locally tagged) 100,000 rapid-printed and distributed to highly affected communities and targeting citizens aged 50 and over (highlights below):
 - Local health departments 43,600
 - Oakland 10,000
 - Wayne 3,000
 - Detroit 2,500
 - Area Agencies on Aging 30,550
 - Wayne County Senior Citizen Services 40 nutrition sites
 - Pharmacy chains 28,700
 - 12,000 Kroger's 60 stores SE MI and Kent Co.
 - 11,200 Meijer's 28 stores in SE MI
 - 4,500 Walgreens 25 stores in SE MI and Kent Co.
 - 1,000 Spartan 10 stores in Kent Co.
- WNV Toolkit, including talking points, sample press releases, sample articles, factsheets, graphics, and summary data shared with partners electronically:
 - All Local health departments
 - All Hospitals
 - All Emergency Management Coordinators
 - Public Information Coalition – Champion organizations serving at-risk populations
 - 430 Long-term Care facilities
 - Federally Qualified Health Clinics
 - All Hospital Associations
 - All Public Health Epidemiologists
 - All Tribes in Michigan
 - All County Veterinarians

- WNV Labor Day letter sent to staff in state departments
 - Michigan Department of Community Health
 - Michigan Department of Civil Rights
- Emergency management partners shared WNV information:
 - The Michigan Association of Fire Chiefs used their listserv to share WNV information with all fire departments in Michigan.
 - The Michigan Intelligence Operations Center in Detroit shared information on WNV with many businesses and agencies representing the critical infrastructure in Southeast Michigan.
- Media organizations spread WNV information via news outlets:
 - The CDC WNV PSAs for television were run statewide with Michigan Cable Telecommunications Association. We don't get exact schedules until after the flight is over. They also run additional spots where they have extra time in their schedule, which is where the added value comes from. We won't have a report until October.
 - WTCM FM & WTCM AM developed a PSA for radio in partnership with the Region 7 Homeland Security Planning Board. Midwestern Broadcasting ran the 30 second PSA over Labor Day Weekend. They cover areas north of M-20 to the Mackinaw Bridge
 - Here are sample WNV print and website news coverage after the 8-29-12 MDCH press briefing
 - <http://detroit.cbslocal.com/2012/08/29/west-nile-virus-precautions-urged-after-4th-death-confirmed/>
 - http://www.mlive.com/news/index.ssf/2012/08/health_officials_urge_precauti.html
 - <http://www.wlns.com/story/19407099/michigan-records-4th-west-nile-death-this-year>
 - <http://www.freep.com/article/20120829/NEWS06/120829028/West-Nile-Virus-disease-is-epidemic-Michigan-officials-warn?odyssey=nav%7Chead>
 - <http://www.reuters.com/article/2012/08/29/us-usa-health-westnile-idUSBRE87S0WC20120829>
 - <http://www.wzzm13.com/news/article/223219/2/West-Nile-Virus-an-epidemic-in-Michigan->
 - WNV Facebook posts by MDCH:
 - 8-11-12 with postal reach of 622 and 1487 impressions on page
 - 8-30-12 with postal reach of 684 and 1442 impressions on page

2012 West Nile Virus Activity* in Michigan



* Dates represent the actual date when specimens were collected or onset of illness occurred. Laboratory testing and diagnosis may often result in a 2-3 week delay in notification to MDCH.

First West Nile Virus Activity of 2012 Detected in Michigan

MDCH Urges Citizens to "Fight the Bite" During the July 4 Holiday

Contact: Angela Minicuci (517) 241-2112

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: July 3, 2012

LANSING - In the past week, West Nile Virus (WNV) activity has been identified in two Michigan counties. Being the earliest detection of WNV activity in Michigan in several years, the Michigan Department of Community Health (MDCH) is urging citizens to remember to apply repellents during peak mosquito biting periods (dusk and dawn) and drain standing water around their homes during the holiday.

This past week, a mosquito pool sample collected in mid-June by the Saginaw County Mosquito Abatement Commission tested positive for WNV at Michigan State University (MSU). In addition, a wild turkey in Washtenaw County was submitted to the Michigan Department of Natural Resources and also tested positive for WNV at MSU. These findings show the virus is circulating in mosquitoes and birds in the state which could present a risk to human health.

Due to an unusually warm spring, mosquitoes that can transmit West Nile hatched early and are on the rise in Michigan, according to the state's mosquito control districts. West Nile can cause serious neurological illnesses, such as meningitis and encephalitis. Last year, WNV was responsible for 34 serious illnesses and two fatalities in Michigan. Nationally, 712 WNV cases and 34 deaths were reported to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

"Hot and dry conditions favor development of the virus and the mosquitoes that transmit it," said Erik Foster, medical entomologist at MDCH. "These mosquitoes may breed near people's homes in storm drains, shallow ditches, retention ponds, and unused pools. When these areas are not flushed out by rains, it becomes stagnant and highly organic, which is appealing to mosquitoes that can transmit the disease."

During the upcoming holiday when people spend more time outdoors, it's especially important to take precautions against mosquito bites. While activity has been detected in only two counties so far, all Michigan residents should follow simple, effective strategies to protect themselves and their loved ones. In particular, citizens are advised to use mosquito repellent products containing EPA-approved active ingredients, such as DEET, picaridin, or oil of lemon eucalyptus. Draining standing water, and making sure door and window screens are in good repair will also help keep mosquitoes out of the home.

"Adults who are 50 and older have the highest risk of illness caused by West Nile Virus. People who work in outdoor occupations like construction and landscaping are also at increased risk of getting bitten by an infected mosquito," said Dr. Corinne Miller, state epidemiologist at MDCH. "One bite from an infected mosquito can lead to a severe and possibly life-altering illness. Prevention is the key to protection."

For up to date information about West Nile activity in Michigan, precaution and treatment information, or to report sick or dead birds, visit www.michigan.gov/westnile. Additional information can be found at the CDC's website www.cdc.gov/westnile.

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STATE OF MICHIGAN

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY HEALTH
LANSING

RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

OLGA DAZZO
DIRECTOR

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
July 27, 2012

MDCH CONTACT: Angela Minicuci
(517) 241-2112
OAKLAND COUNTY HEALTH
DEPARTMENT: Kathy Forzley
(248) 858-1410

State's First Confirmed Human Case of West Nile Virus Reported

Michigan health officials have identified an Oakland County man as the state's first confirmed human case of West Nile Virus (WNV) for 2012. The 44-year-old man was hospitalized earlier this month after showing symptoms and is now at home recovering.

A mosquito pool sample collected in mid-June by the Saginaw County Mosquito Abatement Commission tested positive for WNV at Michigan State University (MSU). In addition, a wild turkey in Washtenaw County was submitted to the Michigan Department of Natural Resources in June and also tested positive for WNV at MSU.

Due to an unusually warm and dry spring and summer, mosquitoes that can transmit West Nile hatched early and are on the rise in Michigan, according to the state's mosquito control districts. West Nile can cause serious neurological illnesses, such as meningitis and encephalitis.

"Every summer and fall, we find that the presence of West Nile Virus in Michigan poses a serious health threat to our residents," said Dr. Dean Sienko, Interim Chief Medical Executive at MDCH. "With the virus appearing earlier this year than it has in recent years, because of the hot and dry conditions, we want to advise residents to take appropriate precautions now to avoid getting bitten."

Kathy Forzley, Health Officer of Oakland County Health Division, further emphasizes, "This is an important reminder that West Nile Virus is present in the community. Residents are reminded to follow key steps to protect themselves from illness."

Michigan residents are encouraged to take the following steps to avoid WNV:

- Maintain window and door screening to help keep mosquitoes out of buildings.
- Empty water from mosquito breeding sites such as buckets, unused kiddie pools, old tires or similar sites where mosquitoes lay eggs.
- Avoid being outdoors at dusk and dawn when mosquitoes are most active.
- Wear light colored, long-sleeved shirts and long pants when outdoors.
- Apply insect repellents that contain the active ingredient DEET, or other EPA approved repellent to exposed skin or clothing, always following the manufacturer's directions for use.

The months of August and September are when most human cases of West Nile Virus occur in Michigan. The end of summer is when mosquitoes are older and more likely to carry the virus. The types of mosquitoes that transmit the virus bite during evening and nighttime hours.

— MORE —

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www.michigan.gov • 517-373-3740

Most people bitten by a WNV infected mosquito show no symptoms of illness. However, some become sick three to 15 days after exposure.

About one-in-five infected persons will have mild illness with fever. About one in 150 infected people will become severely ill. Symptoms of encephalitis (inflammation of the brain) and meningitis (inflammation of the spinal cord and brain linings) include stiff neck, stupor, disorientation, coma, tremors, muscle weakness, convulsions and paralysis.

People 50 and older are more susceptible to severe WNV disease symptoms. Physicians are urged to test patients for WNV if they present with fever and signs of meningitis or encephalitis, or sudden painless paralysis in the absence of stroke in the summer months.

Last year, WNV was responsible for 34 serious illnesses and two fatalities in Michigan. Nationally, 712 WNV cases and 34 deaths were reported to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Southeast Michigan is a recurrent focus of WNV activity annually.

For more information and surveillance activity updates about West Nile virus, visit the state's Emerging Diseases website at www.michigan.gov/westnilevirus or Oakland County Health Division's website for local information at www.oakgov.com/health.

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STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY HEALTH
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RICK SNYDER
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
August 16, 2012

MDCH CONTACT: Angela Minicuci
(517) 241-2112

State's First 2012 West Nile Virus Fatality Reported

LANSING – Michigan health officials are reporting that a Washtenaw County woman who was hospitalized with viral meningitis is the state's first human West Nile Virus (WNV) death this year. The previously healthy woman between ages 75 and 85 was hospitalized earlier this month after showing symptoms and has since passed away. WNV can cause serious neurological illnesses, such as meningitis and encephalitis and can have long-term health consequences.

"With the virus appearing earlier this year than it has in recent years, we want to remind residents to take the appropriate precautions to avoid getting bit," said Dr. Corinne Miller, State Epidemiologist with the Michigan Department of Community Health.

Human WNV cases are on the rise both nationally and in Michigan. Thus far in 2012, a total of 693 cases of WNV disease in people, including 26 deaths, have been reported to the CDC. This is the highest number of WNV cases reported to the CDC through the second week in August since 1999, when the virus was first detected in the United States.

For Michigan, a total of 24 cases and one death have been reported for the same time period. Those infected range in age from 18 to 84, with the average being 55. WNV appeared in birds and mosquitoes in Michigan in 2001 and in humans in 2002. This is the highest number of human cases reported for Michigan through the second week of August since 2002.

WNV activity is widespread in the southern half of the Lower Peninsula. Reports of human cases are increasing, and the risk for virus transmission will remain extremely high throughout the summer and fall. Last year, WNV was responsible for 34 serious illnesses and two fatalities in Michigan.

"The unusually hot and dry summer has favored the mosquitoes that transmit WNV. These same conditions have led to a reduction in the number of "nuisance" mosquitoes which are more abundant during wet summers, giving citizens a false sense of security," said Dr. Miller.

WNV carrying mosquitoes breed in small collections of stagnant water, are common around people's homes and often bite people indoors. While few mosquitoes may be noticed outdoors, those that are present and biting are likely to be the type that potentially carry WNV.

The months of August and September are when most human cases of WNV occur in Michigan. The end of summer is when mosquitoes are older and more likely to carry the virus. The types of mosquitoes that transmit the virus bite during evening and nighttime hours.

Most people bitten by a WNV-infected mosquito show no symptoms of illness. However, some become sick three to 15 days after exposure. People 50 and older are more susceptible to severe WNV disease symptoms.

Physicians are urged to test patients for WNV if they present with fever and signs of meningitis or encephalitis, or sudden painless paralysis in the absence of stroke in the summer months.

Michigan residents are encouraged to take the following steps to avoid WNV:

- Maintain window and door screening to help keep mosquitoes out of buildings.
- Empty water from mosquito breeding sites such as buckets, unused kiddie pools, old tires or similar sites where mosquitoes lay eggs.
- Apply insect repellents that contain the active ingredient DEET, or other EPA approved repellent to exposed skin or clothing, especially during peak mosquito activity periods such as dusk and dawn.
- Wear light colored, long-sleeved shirts and long pants when outdoors.

For more information and surveillance activity updates about WNV, visit the state's Emerging Diseases website at www.michigan.gov/westnilevirus or the CDC's WNV website at www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dvbid/westnile/index.htm.

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Michigan West Nile Virus Talking Points

August 16, 2012

Human cases

- There have been 24 human cases and one death of WNV reported in Michigan.
 - Those infected range in age from 18 to 84, with the average being 55.
 - WNV appeared in birds and mosquitoes in Michigan in 2001 and in humans in 2002.
 - This is the highest number of human cases reported for Michigan through the second week of August since 2002.
- Human illnesses this year began two weeks earlier than in 2011.
- Last year, WNV was responsible for 34 serious illnesses and two fatalities in Michigan.
 - Nationally, 712 WNV cases and 34 deaths were reported to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Non-human cases

- We have also had a few positive crows from Midland (3) and Macomb (1) counties, a dead house finch and a squirrel in Ingham County, and an infected horse from Montcalm County.
- Previously reported WNV surveillance positives include a wild turkey from Washtenaw County and a mosquito pool from Saginaw County.

Causes and Symptoms

- The earlier onset of WNV and the activity in the mosquito population that transmits it can be attributed to the unusually dry, warm weather.
- The mosquito that transmits WNV (*Culex* sp.) is the mosquito that has been biting people this year due in part to the weather.

- This mosquito thrives in urban areas, particularly areas with standing water. Without consistent rainfall, urban areas have provided a breeding ground for these mosquitoes because small pools of water have not been consistently flushed out by periodic rains.
- Most people bitten by a WNV infected mosquito show no symptoms.
 - However, some become sick three to 15 days after exposure. In some cases, WNV can lead to encephalitis or meningitis.
 - People 50 and older are more susceptible to severe WNV symptoms.
- About one-in-five infected persons will have mild illness with fever. About one in 150 infected people will become severely ill.
- Symptoms of encephalitis (inflammation of the brain) and meningitis (inflammation of the spinal cord and brain linings) include stiff neck, stupor, disorientation, coma, tremors, muscle weakness, convulsions and paralysis.

Tips

- Maintain window and door screening to help keep mosquitoes out of buildings.
- Empty water from mosquito breeding sites such as buckets, unused kiddie pools, old tires or similar sites where mosquitoes lay eggs.
- Avoid being outdoors at dusk and dawn when mosquitoes are most active.
- Wear light colored, long-sleeved shirts and long pants when outdoors.
- Apply insect repellents that contain the active ingredient DEET, or other EPA approved repellent to exposed skin or clothing, always following the manufacturer's directions for use.

National West Nile Virus Talking Points

- Thus far in 2012, a total of 693 cases of West Nile virus disease, including 26 deaths, have been reported to CDC.
- This is the highest number of cases reported through the second week of August since 1999, when WNV was first discovered in the United States.
- Almost 80 percent of the cases have been reported from four states (Texas, Mississippi, Louisiana, and Oklahoma).
- CDC is working with state and local health departments and other government agencies, as well as private industry, to prepare for and prevent new cases of WNV. They are:
 - Managing and maintaining ArboNET, a nation-wide electronic surveillance system where states share information about WNV and other arboviral diseases
 - Supporting states as they develop and carry out improved mosquito prevention and control programs
 - Developing better, faster tests to detect and diagnose WNV
 - Preparing updated prevention and surveillance information for the media, the public, and health professionals
 - Working with partners on the development of vaccines



STATE OF MICHIGAN
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
August 28, 2012

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(517) 241-2112

MDARD CONTACT: Bridget Patrick
(517) 241-2669

MEDIA ADVISORY

Press Teleconference to Focus on West Nile Virus Precautions In Advance of Labor Day Weekend

WHAT: With the extended Labor Day weekend, more Michiganders will be outside enjoying the weather. The Michigan departments of Community Health, Agriculture and Rural Development, and Natural Resources along with Michigan State University (MSU), would like to remind Michigan residents of simple precautions that can be taken to avoid getting bitten during the holiday.

West Nile Virus cases have been on the rise both nationally and in Michigan. The State of Michigan will give an update on current case counts and provide tips and expert opinions about what Michigan residents can do to protect themselves and their families.

WHO: Dr. Dean Sienko
Interim Chief Medical Executive
Michigan Department of Community Health

Dr. Steve Halstead, DVM
State Veterinarian
Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development

Dr. Edward Walker
Department of Microbiology and Molecular Genetics
Michigan State University

**Experts from the Michigan departments of Community Health, Agriculture and Rural Development, and Natural Resources, as well as MSU will be on hand during the call to answer questions.*

WHERE: Teleconference Call-in Number: (877) 810-9415
Access Code: 1129906

WHEN: 9 a.m., Wednesday, Aug. 29

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August 29, 2012 West Nile Virus Press Teleconference Run of Show

- Speakers**
- Dr. Dean Sienko, Interim Chief Medical Executive, MDCH
 - Dr. Steve Halstead, State Veterinarian, MDARD
 - Dr. Edward Walker, Professor, Department of Microbiology and Molecular Genetics, Michigan State University
 - *Additional Staff:*
 - MDCH - Erik Foster, Mary Grace Stobierski, Angela Minicuci, Jackie Scott
 - MDARD - Bridget Patrick, Jennifer Holton
 - MDNR - Thomas Cooley and Steve Schmidt

Order

- 8:45 a.m. – Speakers arrive.
- 9 a.m. – Conference call line goes live. Angela Minicuci introduces speakers.
- 9:02 a.m. – Dr. Dean Sienko discusses the current WNV human case count, a brief epidemiology description of the cases, and reminders for avoiding getting bitten during Labor Day weekend.
- 9:07 a.m. – Dr. Steve Halstead discusses WNV in livestock and companion animals, reiterates importance of taking precautions during Labor Day weekend.
- 9:12 a.m. – Dr. Edward Walker discusses WNV in mosquitoes and why this year has suited WNV conditions. Reiterates importance of precaution during Labor Day weekend.
- 9:17 a.m. – Angela Minicuci opens the call up to questions from the media *only*.
- 9:17 to 9:30 a.m. – Media asks questions.

Where **7th Floor Large Conference Room, Capitol View Building**

- 201 Townsend St., Lansing
- The press telebriefing will include speakers from MDCH, MDARD, and MSU. MDNR will have folks available for comment should any questions arise that they are best suited to answer.

2012 Michigan West Nile Virus Numbers at a Glance

(as of 8/29/2012, for more information see www.michigan.gov/westnile)

80 human cases

62 hospitalized patients

27 viremic blood donors (11 developed West Nile fever*)

4 human fatalities (Age range 69-86 years, median 81 years)

56 years-- median age of human cases

2 years--youngest human case

87 years--oldest human case

17 counties with WNV positive humans, mosquitoes, horses, or wildlife

19 positive birds

16 positive mosquito samples

1 positive horse

*These cases are included in the 80 total human cases.



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
August 29, 2012

MDCH CONTACT: Angela Minicuci
(517) 241-2112
MDARD CONTACT: Bridget Patrick
(517) 241-2669

West Nile Virus Precautions to Take During Labor Day Weekend

LANSING – With more Michiganders spending time outside for the extended Labor Day weekend, the Michigan departments of Community Health (MDCH) and Agriculture and Rural Development, and Natural Resources along with Michigan State University (MSU), would like to remind residents of the simple precautions that can be taken to avoid mosquito bites during the holiday.

“As we continue to watch the count of West Nile Virus (WNV) cases climb, Labor Day weekend is an important time to remind Michiganders of the simple precautions they can take,” said Dr. Dean Sienko, Interim Chief Medical Executive at MDCH. “With so many people enjoying the outdoors this coming weekend, we want to be sure that everyone, especially the elderly and those with weakened immune systems, are protecting themselves from mosquito bites.”

WNV cases have been on the rise both nationally and in Michigan. As of Wednesday, Aug. 29, there are X confirmed WNV cases. WNV is also responsible for Y deaths this year. In addition to the human cases, WNV has also been found in livestock and wildlife across the state.

“Signs of WNV in a horse may include stumbling, limb weakness, facial paralysis, difficulty urinating and defecating, fever, blindness, seizures, and struggling to get up,” said State Veterinarian Dr. Steven Halstead. “There is no specific treatment for WNV encephalitis, but supportive care can help horses survive until their natural defenses eliminate the virus.”

Most people bitten by a WNV-infected mosquito show no symptoms of illness. However, some become sick three to 15 days after exposure. People 50 and older are more susceptible to severe WNV disease symptoms.

Michigan residents are encouraged to take the following steps to avoid WNV:

- Apply insect repellents that contain the active ingredient DEET, picaridin, oil of lemon eucalyptus or other EPA approved repellent to exposed skin or clothing.
- Avoid being outdoors at dusk and dawn when mosquitoes are most active.
- Maintain window and door screening to help keep mosquitoes out of buildings.
- Empty water from mosquito breeding sites such as buckets, unused kiddie pools, old tires or similar sites where mosquitoes lay eggs.
- Wear light colored, long-sleeved shirts and long pants when outdoors.

- MORE -

The mosquitoes that transmit WNV to humans lay eggs in small pools of standing water. Adult mosquitoes can hatch in 10 days in warm weather. Mosquitoes become infected and transmit WNV after feeding on birds carrying the virus. Within 10 to 14 days, the mosquito can transmit the virus to humans and horses.

Many of the same precautions people take can also be used to protect livestock:

- Since West Nile Virus is spread to horses through the bite of an infected mosquito, protection measures that reduce the exposure to mosquito bites should be adopted.
- It is not too late to vaccinate horses this season. Talk to your veterinarian for details.
- Use approved insect repellants to protect horses. If possible, put horses in stables, stalls, or barns, preferably under fans, during the prime mosquito exposure hours of dusk and dawn.
- Eliminate standing water, and drain troughs and buckets at least once a week.

For more information about WNV in Michigan, visit www.michigan.gov/westnilevirus or www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dvbid/westnile/index.htm.

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West Nile virus and other arboviral activity: Weekly Summary, Michigan 2012

September 21, 2012

4,835

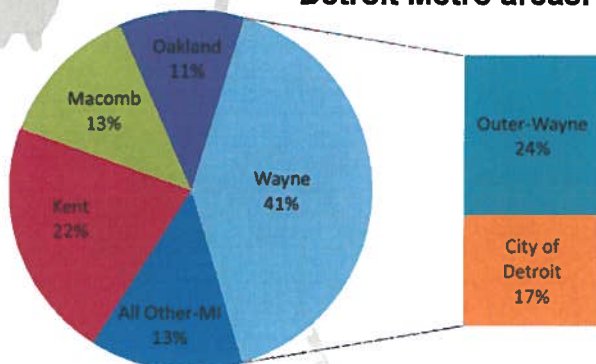
Mosquito pools tested for arbovirus infection so far in 2012. Sixteen pools have tested positive for WNV.

59

The median age among WNV cases is 59 years. The range is 2-91 years.

87%

of all 2012 human WNV illnesses are from the Grand Rapids and Detroit Metro areas.



This update includes provisional data reported to the Michigan Department of Community Health for January 1 – September 21, 2012 for notifiable arboviral disease caused by West Nile, Eastern equine encephalitis, La Crosse, Powassan, and St. Louis encephalitis viruses.

West Nile virus (WNV) activity in 2012

Reported WNV disease cases: As of September 21, 2012, there have been **162 human cases of WNV disease** reported from 19 Michigan counties. Of these cases, 127 (78%) were classified as neuroinvasive disease (e.g., meningitis, encephalitis, acute flaccid paralysis) and 35 (22%) as non-neuroinvasive disease (Table 1). To date there have been **eight fatalities** among reported cases of WNV in Michigan. Dates of illness onset for disease range from July 6 – September 10.

Presumptive viremic blood donors: A total of **35 WNV presumptive viremic blood donors** have been reported in Michigan. Ten donors were from Kent County and nine donors were from Wayne County including one resident from the City of Detroit. Other counties with positive donors include Ingham, Jackson, Livingston, Macomb, Mason, Oakland, Ottawa and Washtenaw. Most people who are infected with WNV do not develop an illness but virus might be temporarily present in their blood. These asymptomatic but infected people are detected through routine blood donor screening, which provides an important early warning of WNV activity in an area.

Comparison to 2011 data: Figure 1 displays the onset dates of human WNV cases in 2012 compared to 2011. The current 162 cases is the highest number of cases reported for this time of year since the 2002 West Nile virus outbreak.

Ecological Surveillance: Recent detections of WNV in wildlife and horses have come from Barry, Midland, Ottawa, and Sanilac counties. A Blue Jay collected September 10, from Ottawa county and an American Crow collected September 12, from Midland county have tested positive for WNV. Two horses (Barry, Sanilac) have also recently tested positive for WNV. Current and previous human and ecologic surveillance results are shown in Figures 2 and 3.

For more information

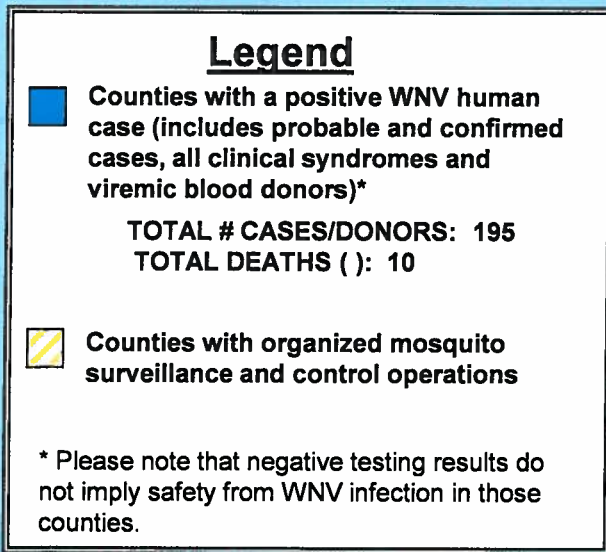
www.michigan.gov/westnilevirus
Automated Hotline: 877-757-5717



Prepared by the Michigan Department of Community Health
Division of Communicable Disease
Zoonotic Disease and Special Projects Section

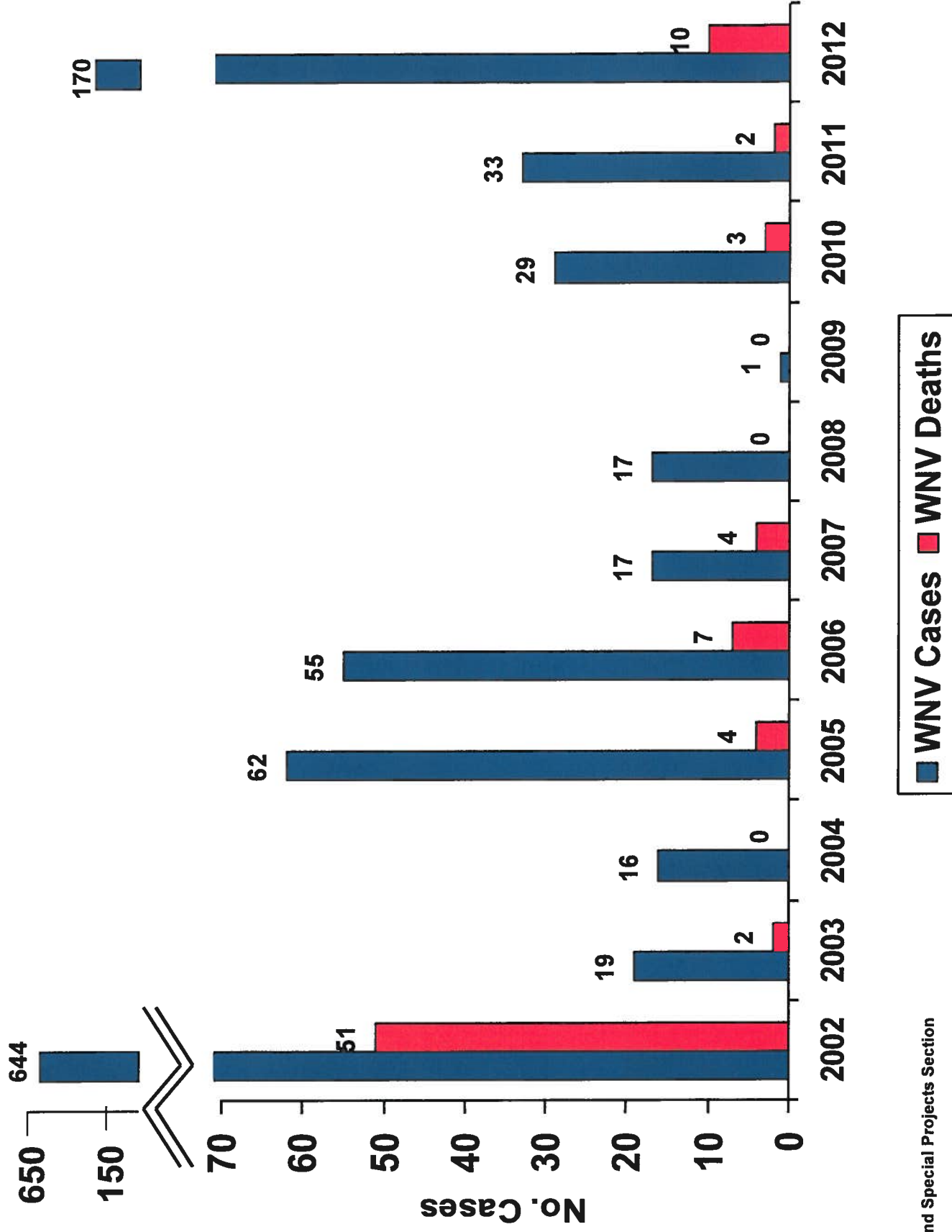


As of September 25, 2012



In 2011, there were 34 WNV human cases in Michigan. Two WNV related fatalities were reported, one from Macomb County, and one from the City of Detroit

West Nile Virus Cases and Deaths: Michigan 2002 - 2012



West Nile Virus Incidence in Michigan's 10 Largest Counties: 2002-2012

